

can be heard the sound of shots from the negro district, as a Guardsman fires at a vandal or a lone black or white sniper shoots at an enemy. Reports came to headquarters late to-night that new fighting had broken out in the North Greenwood avenue section, the principal negro business district, and Guardsmen and policemen were at once sent there in automobiles. This report was brought to the police by a fireman, who said negroes had fired upon trucks of the Fire Department and upon State troops.

Thousands of negroes are homeless because when the firemen answered the alarms late last night and early this morning the crowds of white men besieging the blacks would not let them lay lines of hose to extinguish the flames. Several times the firemen tried to break through the mob with hose, but each time they were driven back, and once or twice they were fired upon. Finally, they had to confine their work to guarding the warehouses and the white residence districts adjoining the negro section.

Exodus of Negroes.

The negroes who were driven from home by the fire and by their own fear streamed through the streets of Tulsa all morning, some of them headed for other cities, hoping to get to the city limits without being killed, and others trying to reach white people to whom they were known. The city authorities began herding them together soon after daylight and confined them in the Convention Hall, in the baseball park and in the police station. It is estimated that there are about 5,000 negroes now under guard at these places, many of them prisoners who were caught by troops and detectives with arms in their hands. Other negro prisoners are locked up in the county and city jails.

The negroes assembled as refugees from the fighting zones are being cared for by civic organizations. Many of them ran from their homes without their clothing, saving only what they could first get their hands on. Many are old men and women and young boys and girls, not concerned in the fighting or in the cause of it, but sufferers from the conflict between the mobs of whites and blacks. All day these people have been struggling into the Convention Hall and into the baseball park, panic-stricken through their experiences of the night. They tell terrible stories of whole negro families being burned to death when their homes were fired and they could not escape for fear of being shot. The police have investigated enough of these stories to indicate that possibly fifty negroes were burned to death.

A military commission to pass upon the status of the negroes held in the prison camps has been organized by Mayor T. D. Evans and Chief of Police Gustafson with the approval of Adjutant-Gen. C. F. Barrett, in command of the Oklahoma National Guard. This commission is composed of seven city officials, and the city authorities announced to-night that it will make every effort to provide housing and food for the negroes and to weed out from the thousands the men who had a part in the rioting.

Civic Organizations to Aid.

All the civic organizations of Tulsa, many of them newly formed because of the city's phenomenal growth in population of from less than 2,000 in 1910 to more than 80,000 in 1920, have expressed their intention of doing whatever they can to alleviate the misfortunes of the barefooted and homeless negroes who are being frightened and discouraged, in the open air at the ball park and herded like sheep in Convention Hall.

The State troops now in Tulsa and patrolling the city are the Oklahoma companies and the Tulsa companies of the Second Oklahoma Infantry, with the machine company of that regiment. The soldiers are armed with rifles and machine guns and are carrying a rifle or a revolver, and reports of the situation are made hourly to Gen. Barrett, who has established his headquarters at City Hall. Col. B. P. Markham of Oklahoma City is in command of the field operations of the troops. For a time the troops operated under the direction of the city authorities, but after the Governor invoked martial law Gen. Barrett took command of the city and military law became established.

The Governor followed his declaration of martial law in Tulsa, later extending it to cover the entire county, with this telegram to Gen. Barrett:

"I have declared martial law throughout Tulsa county and am holding you responsible for maintenance of order, safety of lives and the protection of property. You will do all things necessary to attain these objects."

Firing Nearly Continuous.

The first shot in the trouble that resulted in the most disastrous race riot in the history of the United States and which for almost twenty-four hours kept Tulsa hidden beneath the clouds of smoke that rolled over the city from burning houses on Archer street and other thoroughfares of the negro district, was fired last night at 10 o'clock, when a negro shot at Detective E. S. McQueen after the officer had ordered the blacks to return to their homes. Since then, up to midnight to-night, there has hardly been a half hour in which the sound of rifle and revolver firing could not be heard in some section of the city.

Two or three hours before the first shot was fired the rumor went down into Little Africa that Rowland had been lynched for his attack upon the white elevator girl. The rumor said the county authorities and the city police had agreed to turn over the prisoner to the mob after making a mere show of resistance.

The blacks became tremendously excited. They appeared on the street corners of Little Africa in groups and discussed it. Moonshine and bootleg gin

BULLETS RIDDLE PULLMANS; PASSENGERS HUG FLOOR

Windows and Sides of Car Reaching Oklahoma City Bear Marks of Rioting After Passing Through Tulsa.

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 1.—Evidence of the fury of the riot at Tulsa borne by a St. Louis and San Francisco passenger train which arrived here today from the East today, the windows in one of the cars had been shot out and the sides of the coaches were scarred by bullets fired upon the train as it passed through the black section of Tulsa early today. None of the passengers was injured.

J. E. Lucas, a salesman who arrived here from Tulsa, gave a vivid account of the fighting in the vicinity of the St. Louis and San Francisco passenger station.

"Pullman cars standing in the yards were first on and whites window shattered," he said. "Passengers left their berths and laid flat on the floor in the aisles. There was a dull in the firing when a passenger train pulled in and women and children alighted. Then the firing began again. Bodies of three negroes were lying in front of the station when the train arrived."

Cars Not Molested.

Meanwhile the reports of the preparations the negroes were making to rescue Rowland had spread to the white sections of the city. Additional policemen were sent to the court house, and white men began drifting toward the county jail, apparently more out of curiosity than anything else, because it developed later that very few, if any, of them were armed. Just before 10 o'clock a crowd of perhaps a hundred white men had gathered on the steps and in the vicinity of the court house, including a score of policemen and detectives. These men were there when the first motor car containing the armed and shouting blacks came out of a side street, swept into Boulder street and whirled past the court house.

This car was not molested by either the police or the white men on the steps of the court house. A few minutes later another car appeared on Sixth street, shooting suddenly from a narrow side street. This, too, went past the court house in the direction followed by the first one. Then came others, and after them the negroes on foot, some carrying glinting with the rifles whose barrels caught the rays of the street lamps. The negroes marched back and forth in front of the court house, shouting and waving their rifles. A car which had stopped, he stopped in front of it, and a gigantic negro, rifle in his hands, arose from the back seat.

This man appeared to be the leader of the blacks. McQueen told him that his gang must disperse and go to their homes, back in Little Africa. The negro threatened that they had come to see that Rowland was not lynched and that he had a fair trial.

"He will have a fair trial," McQueen said. "We've got enough police here to prevent anybody getting him, and all those men with you must go home."

According to persons who were in the crowd around the court house, the negro replied with an oath that his gang would burn the court house and prevent the whites from lynching him. McQueen then told the negro he was under arrest and tried to jerk him from the machine. The negro, dodging back among his comrades in the back seat of the car, flung his rifle forward and fired one shot at McQueen, the heavy steel jacketed bullet passing over the detective's head and plunging into the wall of the court house.

Shot That Started Trouble.

That was the shot that started the trouble. Accounts as to what happened immediately afterward differ, because of the excitement. It is pretty well established, however, that McQueen, his own life saved because he had ducked, drew his own revolver. Whether he fired is not known. It is certain, however, that within a few minutes the firing became general. Hard on the first shot fired by the negro in the automobile came scattering shots from the negroes in the other cars and the negroes on foot, who had pushed forward and had crowded about the detective and his leader.

It appears certain that very few of the white men were armed, as the first shot hardly had been fired when the crowd of them on the court house steps began to scatter. But they went into Sixth and Boulder streets, where there are gun and ammunition stores and hardware stores handling rifles and revolvers. They came back in a few minutes, armed with rifles and pistols. They found the negroes pressing forward against the small group of patrolmen and detectives, who tried in vain to keep them away from the doors of the court house. No one knows who fired first, but one of the first white men to get back with weapons put the muzzle of his gun against the breast of a negro who was flourishing a revolver and sent a bullet into his heart.

The scream of the negro as he died and the fact of his falling among a crowd of his fellows caused the other negroes to break and run. But half a

block away they recovered their nerve and, led by the negro who had shot at McQueen, they went more slowly. The whites followed as the negroes went back of the court house, both sides firing and using whatever cover was afforded by the telephone posts and the corners of buildings. A group of men who apparently had served in the army dropped flat and their way toward the negroes in short rushes, exactly as they had attacked machine gun positions.

These men dislodged the negroes from their positions in the mouth of the alley and they fled into Boston street. They crossed Boston street and came into Fourth street, where they again made a stand, but were once more driven back by the whites. Several negroes were seriously hurt during this engagement and two or three white men received slight wounds.

After leaving Fourth street the negroes divided into two groups, but apparently with a plan to meet again, because when the white men came to a group of them at Second and Cincinnati streets the remainder of the blacks appeared suddenly from side streets and presented their full strength. But their stand there was brief, and after several men had been shot, but so far as can be learned, none killed, the negroes retreated across the tracks of the Price railroad and made their way back to their own quarters.

All Tulsa Aroused.

By 11:30 this time all Tulsa was laboring under tremendous excitement. By telephone and by messenger the word had gone that the white men were attacking a group of them at Second and Cincinnati streets the remainder of the blacks appeared suddenly from side streets and presented their full strength. But their stand there was brief, and after several men had been shot, but so far as can be learned, none killed, the negroes retreated across the tracks of the Price railroad and made their way back to their own quarters.

For some time the white men and the negroes contented themselves with firing into the air across the railroad tracks, but at 1:30 this morning an attempt was made to set fire to the negro quarter. Two houses at Archer and Boston streets, used by a garrison of more than fifty negroes, most of them armed with army rifles, were set afire at that time and an alarm was turned in. But the efforts of the fire department to lay hose were stopped by a crowd of white men, who told the captain of the fire company his men would be killed if they tried to put out the fire and the firemen returned to their station. The white men stood in the shadows and fired at the negroes as, terribly frightened and with their guns abandoned, they ran from the burning buildings. Several are believed to have been killed.

Poured Gasoline on Houses.

Five hours later the mob made a second and successful attempt to fire the negro quarter. Detachments of men operating independently crawled along the sidewalks and poured kerosene and gasoline on the doors and windows and stoops of the buildings; several which were vacant were entered and fired and almost simultaneously flames began to burst from the frame shacks that huddled together the entire length of Archer street.

Crowds of armed white men stood in the shadows made by the clouds of smoke and others whirled up and down in front of the burning houses in automobiles. The district was almost surrounded and from their vantage points the white men fired shot after shot into the burning houses, killing only a few negroes, however. Most of the blacks rushed from their homes without arms and with their hands raised above their heads, crying "Don't shoot." These were taken to the prison camps by this time had been established.

It was about the time when the fires began to illumine the entire city and the noise of the shooting could be heard throughout all Tulsa that the city authorities realized that the situation had passed beyond their control. A call

was sent to Gov. Robertson for troops, and the Governor ordered Adjutant-General Charles F. Barrett to take whatever measures were necessary for the protection of life and property. The Adjutant-General ordered the three Tulsa companies of the Oklahoma State Guard to mobilize, and also sent out calls to three nearby towns to have their troops ready for entraining.

Guardmen Held Back Mob.

It was only a little after daybreak that the first detachment of troops began to arrive and take up their posts in front of the court house, where crowds were still gathered under the impression that the negro Rowland was inside the courtly jail. The squadmen were not numerous enough to drive the crowd away, but they did prevent the mob from breaking through and entering the court house. Other details of troops were sent to the districts where most of the sporting and hardware stores were located with instructions to guard these and confiscate all stocks of firearms.

The break of dawn showed the damage which had been done in the night by the opposing forces of blacks and whites. Houses throughout the section were on fire and all over the city there hung clouds of black smoke that rolled upward and over the town from the flames in Little Africa.

During the fighting just before daylight five hundred white men and a thousand negroes had faced across the Price tracks, and when a switch on the bodies of between six and ten negroes could be seen lying huddled in the strip of "No Man's Land." Near the Price tracks, and on a switch on the switchmen and that of a brakeman who had been shot and killed because they had refused to allow white men and negroes to ride on a switch engine which passed back and forth across "No Man's Land."

Airplanes Went Sightseeing.

Daylight showed also that between sixty and seventy motor cars filled with white men armed with rifles formed an almost complete circle about the negro district. Overhead was the whir of airplanes, and the reports spread that the authorities were using machine guns and bombing planes to restore order. It was learned later, however, that the machines were sightseeing planes. But they gave a touch of realism and caused many a former soldier to crouch nervously behind the telephone post or the railroad embankment that he was using as a cover. During this time there was not much shooting, though there was a great deal of shouting. Most of the firing seemed to come from a point where a squad of white riflemen were shooting at negroes as they emerged from their burning houses. It was estimated at daylight that there were at least a thousand negroes under arms in the black belt. This was the figure given by occupants of the last car to return from the district.

The first troops from out of the city arrived here at 9 o'clock, and the first troops came from Oklahoma City and went on duty at once. The presence of the troops and the knowledge that the Adjutant-General had ordered other companies to proceed here caused the situation, and shortly after they came the city authorities said that they felt the worst was over. At 10 o'clock this morning whites and negroes were reported to be isolated and sporadic, and there were no indications of a renewal of the general fighting which had made the night such a time of terror.

During the morning the figure of the negroes of Muskogee had armed and were marching to Tulsa to help the members of their race in the fight with the white men here caused considerable excitement, and it was feared that it would result in a renewal of the fighting. Motor cars filled with armed men were sent to guard the roads leading into Tulsa, but later it was learned that the reports had no foundation. The guards at the roads were brought back into the city later in the afternoon.

TULSA RIOT DESCRIBED AS 'ONE OF THE WORST'

A statement issued yesterday by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, described the Tulsa race riots, on the face of reports, as "one of the worst that has occurred in the United States in recent years." In East St. Louis in 1917 several hundred persons were killed; in the Chicago riot of 1919 thirty-eight were killed and about 100 injured, and in Phillips county, Arkansas in 1919 five white persons and twenty-five negroes were killed in a race riot.

"White people," said the statement, "often attempt to conceal the number of white casualties from fear of the effect upon colored people. The first report from Tulsa indicates a terrible use of the modern instruments of war, airplanes, automobiles and guns, used by white Americans upon their colored neighbors."

NATIONAL GUARDSMEN CALLED BY FIRE SIREN

Muskogee, June 1.—Sounding of the fire siren here to-day threw the city into excitement. It was some minutes before quiet was restored through announcement that the call was for National Guards to proceed to Tulsa. The siren was mistaken for a riot call.

A local company of National Guardsmen and a company from Wagoner, near here, were ordered to Tulsa. At the office of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad here it was said no passenger trains were being moved out of Tulsa.

EARLY REDUCTION IN RATES IS ASSURED

Voluntary Revision Already Before the I. C. C., Chairman Tells President.

WILL FOLLOW WAGE CUT

Harding Calls Unexpectedly at Offices of Rate Making Body for Conference.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., June 1. General downward revision or adjustment of freight rates on all of the railroads of the country is to follow close on the railroad labor decision making a 12 per cent. reduction in wages.

President Harding took up the matter to-day with members of the Interstate Commerce Commission in an informal and unexpected conference. He left the White House this morning and walked to the commission building. He went unannounced to the office of Chairman Clark and other members of the commission, and he summoned to meet him. The President went into every phase of the rate situation and asked what steps had been taken to relieve the inequalities resulting from percentage rate increases and what was being done to bring general reductions which were regarded as essential.

Chairman Clark assured him that the commission was moving in this direction and had made much progress, though the matters affected were of such a nature that nothing could be made public until they were ended.

After the conference it was made known at the White House that the President had called because he regarded the situation as one of the most important of the day. He had the right to communicate with Congress and he wanted to communicate directly, though informally, with this agency.

Rate reductions are to be brought about as the result of initiation of rates by carriers. The commission has been in conference with various of the railroad executives discussing the reductions which should be made. Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania lines, appeared again before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee and in summing up his rehabilitation plans said:

"My first suggestion is the release of amounts due to the railroads for Federal control, but now held by the Railroad Administration as offsets to capital expenditures made during Federal control. To the end of these capital expenditures would, I estimate, release and pay several hundreds of millions of current cash, due by the Government, into the hands of the railroads as working capital and also to purchase materials and supplies and meet other obligations. The present railroad revenues are not adequate to meet these necessities."

ENGRAVERS VOTE FOR STRIKE.

Back Committee That Ordered Walkout in Newspapers.

The strike ordered at midnight Tuesday by the photo-engravers' union against all newspaper plants in the city was in full effect yesterday. It affected 22 men, but not half the work in commercial plants, where about 1,700 union photo-engravers are employed. The call for the strike was coincident with the expiration of the yearly agreement between the union and the newspaper publishers. The engravers demand \$8 a week more wages, which the publishers decline to concede, but are willing to submit to arbitration. The union voted yesterday to ratify the action of its committee in holding that the time for arbitration had passed.

RAILWAY EXECUTIVES ARE LOATH TO COMMENT

Labor Board Cut Inadequate, Says Lovett.

The disappointment of railway executives in the Labor Board's decision by which railroad wages will be reduced on an average of 12 per cent. on July 1, calculated by the board to cut the annual payroll of the country's carriers by \$100,000,000, was indicated yesterday by the expressed opinion of some officials and more generally by a disinclination to talk for publication.

The view of many railroad executives is known to be in line with the laconic statement of Judge Robert S. Lovett, chairman of the board of directors of the Union Pacific system: "It does not meet the necessities of the situation." "It is very gratifying to know that the Federal Labor Board," said Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the Southern Pacific, "in ordering a reduction of wages that were fixed in abnormal conditions recognizes its duty to restore to some extent their relation to present conditions. It is impossible to say what effect, in money, this decision will have on Southern Pacific lines. To do this would require laborious computations to apply the new rates to the existing forces. It can be said in general terms, however, that the effect on operating expenses will be substantial."

Other executives recalled that when the Labor Board announced the railway wage increases of last summer, averaging about 25 per cent. it was calculated the addition to the annual payroll of the country's transportation system would aggregate \$600,000,000, whereas in actual effect in the last eight months of 1920 the increase amounted to more than \$800,000,000.

MARINE STRIKE CHIEFS STAY IN WASHINGTON

The strike committee of the marine engineers remained in Washington yesterday, where Secretary of Labor Davis is still trying to frame an agreement acceptable to both strikers and the Shipping Board. It is understood that will be another meeting in Washington to-day.

Union leaders in New York saw no hope of settlement, as Admiral Benson has refused to promise that all strikers will get their jobs back. They said that from now on the movement of American steamships would be made more difficult, especially along the Atlantic coast, where the strike has not been as effective as along the Pacific. On Tuesday twelve steamships left the port of New York, an unusually large number. Four left yesterday.

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